

ARTICLES

TO BE ENQVIRED OF,

within the Arch-Deaconrie of

*Essex*, by the Church-

wardens and Side-men in

every Parish.

And Presentment to be made thereof,  
to the *Arch-deacon*.

With peculiar answer to every Article.

Given, *Annus Dom.* 1639.



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LONDON,

Printed by BAR: ALSON, and TNO: FAVVCHT,

1639.





## The Tenor of the Oath ministred to the Church-wardens and Side-men.

**Y**ee shall diligently and faithfully enquire of all offences committed, or defaults made within the Parish contrarie to these Articles given you in charge, or other Ecclesiasticall Lawes and the same you shall present to the Arch-deacon of *Essex*; or his Officiall, together with all and every such person as hath committed such offence, or made such default or which are vehemently suspected or otherwise defamed for the same: Wherein you shall deal uprightly and faithfully, neither for affection hope of reward or gaine, or for feare of displeasure, sparing to present any of what quality or degrees soever, nor for malice, hatred, or ill will, presenting any contrary to the truth. So helpe you God and the holy Contents of this Booke.

*God save the King.*

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Articles to be enquired of within the Arch-  
Deaconry of Essex, for this present  
yeare of our Lord God.

1639.

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Articles concerning the Clergie.



Whether hath the Minister of the Church read the Constitutions set forth by the late Kings Majesty, once every yeare, upon some Sundayes or Holidayes in the afternone before Divine Service?

2 Whether doth the Minister use to pray for the King and Quenes Majesty, King Charles and Quene Mary, Prince Charles, with the rest of the Royall Progeny, giving unto him such stile and title

of supreme Governour over all causes, and over all persons, as well Ecclesiasticall as Lemporall, as by Law are due unto him, exhorting their Parishioners to yeld him obedience according to the same: and also in their said Sermons, doe pray for all Arch-bishops, Bishops, and all other Ecclesiasticall persons (according to the 55 Canon?)

3 Whether is the prescript forme of Divine Service constantly used by the Minister upon Sundayes, Holidayes, and their Eves, Wednesdayes, and Fridayes, according to the Booke of Common Prayer? And whether doth the Minister duly observe all the Orders, Rites, and Ceremonies prescribed in the said Booke of Common Prayer, as well in reading publike Prayers, the Letanie, and also in administering the Sacraments, in such manner and forme wearing the Surplisse, as by the Booke of Common prayer by Law established is injoyned?

4 Whether doth the Minister administer the holy Communion so often, and at such times, as that every Parishioner may receive the



same at least thrice in every yeare, whereof once at Easter, as by the Booke of common Prayer is appointed. And whether doth the Minister receiue the same himselfe on every day that he administreth it to others, kneeling at the same, and administreth it to none but such as doe knæle at the receiuing thereof, and whether doth he rehearse the words of consecration according to the Booke, at every time that the Bread or Wine is new brought in, in such manner and forme, as by the Proviso of the 21 Canon is directed, or wherein is he faulty? And whether is warning given by him before-hand for the Communion, as the 22. Canon requireth?

5 Whether doth the Minister cause the whole number of Communicants in his Parish to come vp vnto the Rasse, and bring vnto each particular person the whole forme of words prescribed in the Booke of Common prayer, doth he deliver the holy Sacrament vnto them reverently kneeling on their knees, or wherein hath he neglected?

6 Whether hath the Minister, admitted any notorious offenders, or Schismatickes to the Communion, contrary to the 26. and 27. Constitutions, without satisfaction by due course of Law fore-enjoynd them, or rejected any from the Communion who were not by publike presentment, or other open scandall infamous and detected of some notorious crime, by common fame published in the Parish?

7 Whether doth the Minister, together with the Church-wardens and Questmen, take diligent heed and care, that not onely all and every of your owne Parishioners doe receiue thrice in every yeare, as aforesaid: but also, that no Strangers of any other Parish doe forsake their owne Minister and Parish to receiue with you, contrary to the 28. Canon?

8 Whether doth the Minister vse to signe Childzen with the signe of the Crosse, when they are Baptized, according to the Booke of common Prayer, and the 30. Canon: and doth he neuer faile to vse the signe of the Crosse? And whether he hath deferred, or wilfully refused to Baptize any Infant in his Parish being in danger, hauing been duely informed of the weaknesse thereof? And whether the Child hath dyed by his default without Baptisme, contrary to the 68. and 69. Canons?

9 Whether is the Minister continually resident with you vpon his Benefice: or for how long time hath he bene absent, and whether is he resident for the most part, and what other Benefice hath hee?



10 Whether doth the Preacher, vse that and onely that succinct forme of Prayer befoze all Sermons, Lectures, and Homilies, prescribed in the 55. Canon?

11 Whether is the Minister of the church a Preacher allowed : if yea, the by whom : if no, whether doth he procure Sermons to be preached among you once in every Moneth, by such as are lawfully licenced, according to the 46. Canon, or doth contribute toward a licenced Preacher, if his living will beare it?

12 Whether hath the Minister another Benefice : and whether doth he supply his absence by a Curate, that is sufficiently licensed to preach in that cure of his, whereon he himselfe is not resident : or otherwise in case he doth not find a preaching Minister there, by reason of the smalnesse thereof, whether doth he preach at both his Benefices himselfe, according to the 47. Canon?

13 Whether is the Curate licenced to officiate there in your parish and by what authority : whether doth the Minister or Curate serue moze cures then one, contrary to the 48. Canon : If yea, what other Cure doth he also serue?

14 If the Minister be not licenced to Preach, as beforesaid, whether doth he take vpon him to expound the Scriptures, either in his owne Cure or else where, contrary to the 49. Canon : or doth hee only reade distinctly (without glossing or adding) the Homilies published by authority?

15 Whether haue you caused every strange Preacher, to subscribe his name, together with the day when he preached, and by whom he was licenced : And whether haue any preached in your Church, not being in habit according to the 74. Canon?

16 Whether doth the Lecturer, and Preacher reade Divine Service, and minister the Sacraments in his owne person twice every yeere, obseruing all the Ceremonies in the Booke of Common prayer established, according to the 56. Canon?

17 Whether doth the Minister weare the Surplisse whilest he is reading the publike Prayers, and administering the Sacraments, and doth he neuer omit it, and if he be any Graduate, whether then doth he also weare vpon his Surplisse, during the time aforesaid, as by the Orders of his Vniuersitie is agreeable to his degree, according to the 58. Canon?

18 Whether doth the Minister every Sunday and Holiday befoze



Evening Prayer for halfe an houre and more, examine and instruct the youth and ignorant persons of his Parish, in the tenne Commandements, the Articles of Beliefe, and the Lords Prayer, as also in the Catechisme last set forth in the Booke of common prayer, whereby the Children of the Parish may be prepared to Confirmation, according to the 59. Canon :

19 Whether hath the Minister without Licence from the Archbishop, the Bishop of the Diocesse, or his Chancelor, or Commissarie, or from the Arch-deacon or his Officiall, solemnized marriage betwixt any parties, the Banes not being thre severall Sundayes or Holidayes first published in time of Divine Service, or in the severall Churches or Chappels of their severall abode, according to the Booke of common Prayer, and the 62. Canon: and also betwixt the houres of Eight and Twelue in the forenoone, contrary to the 102. Canon :

20 Whether hath the Minister, since the last Canon, solemnized any Marriage betwixt any persons, being vnder the Age of 21. yeeres, although the Banes be thrice asked, befoze such times as the Parents have made knowne vnto him their consent thereunto, contrary to the 99. and 100. Canons: And whether hath he married any of another Diocesse, and who are they, and by what authority, and when :

21 Whether doth the Minister, vpon Sundayes at Morning prayer after the Sermon or Homily declare vnto the Parishioners what holidayes and Fasting dayes are appointed to be kept the Weeks following, according to the 64. Canon, whereby they may be put in mind to prepare themselves accordingly, and to repaire to the Church to publike Prayer :

22 Whether doth the Minister, in the Rogation dayes, vse the perambulation of the Circuit of the Parish, and in the same perambulation move the people to giue thanks to God, for his benefits, vsing such Psalmes, Prayers, and Homilies, as are to that end set forth :

23 Whether doth any man (being neither Priest nor Deacon) reade Common prayer openly in your Church or Chappell, or administer the Sacrament of Baptisme, or solemnize Matrimony, or take vpon him to practise any other Ministeriall duty in the Church, then that is prescribed to be executed particularly by such as are either Priests or Deacons, and what is his Name that so doth :

24 Whether doth the Minister every five Moneths denounce in  
his



his Parish, all such of his Parish, as doe persevere in the sentence of Excommunication, not seeking to be absolved: and whether hath he admitted any person Excommunicate into the Church, without a certificate of his absolution from the Ordinary, or other competent Judge under his Seale, according to the Canons: or doth he wittingly and willingly keepe company with such as are Excommunicate?

25 Whether doth the Minister, being a Preacher endeavour and labour diligently, with mildnesse and temperance to conferre with, and thereby to reclaim the Recusants in his Parish from their errors, if there be any such there being: and whether is he painfull in visitation of the sicke?

26 Whether is the Rector, Vicar, Lecturer, or Curate, too much frequent, or over-conversant with, or a labourer of Recusants, whereby he may be suspected not to be sincere in Religion?

27 Whether hath the Minister, or any other taken upon him the place of a Priest, and Baptized Children (valesse in case of necessity) solemnized marriage, churched any Woman, or administered the holy Communion in any private house or houses: if yea, then where, whom and how often hath he so offended in any of the premises?

28 Whether hath the Minister, or any other, exercised any publike or private Fastes or Prophecies, not approb'd and established by Law, or publike authority?

29 Whether hath the Minister, or any other person or persons within your Parish, met in any private house or other place, to preach there, or to vse any other forme of Divine Service then is appointed in the Booke of common Prayer, or hold private Conventicles contrary to the 73. Canon: If yea, then you shall present them all, and every of them?

30 Whether doth the Minister vse such decency and comelinesse in his apparell, as by the 74. Constitution is enjoyned him, as well at home, as when he goeth abroad?

31 Whether doe you know in your Parish, any that having hère-tofore taken upon him, or them, the order of Priesthood, or of a Deacon, hath since relinquished the same, and betaken himselfe to the course of life of a Lay-man neglecting his vocation, contrary to the 76. Canon.

32 Whether is the Minister noted or defamed, to have obtained his benefice by Symonie, or reputed to be an incontinent person, or doth hee table or lodge any such in his house or is he a common Drunkard or



a frequenter of Tabernes, Ale-houses, or other suspected places, a common Gamester, or player at Dice, or other unlawfull games, a common Swearer, or faulty in any other crime punishable by Ecclesiasticall censures, whereby he is offensive and scandalous to his function and ministry :

33 Whether doth the Minister vse the forme of Thankesgiving, to Women after their child birth, and whether hath he admitted any thereunto that was begotten with Child in Adultery, or Fornication, without Licence of his Ordinary :

34 Whether doth the Minister baptize any childzen in any Basen or other vessel, then in the ordinary Font, being placed in the Church, according to the 81. Canon, or doth put any Basen into it :

35 Whether hath the Minister kept any Excommunication in his custody vnpublished against any of his Parishioners, aboue the space of 20 dayes next after the receit thereof, without some lawfull certificate of the absolution of any such excommunicate person, or of some lawfull warrant for the stay of the Excommunication :

36 Whether hath the Minister admitted any excommunicate person to the holy Communion, befoze he hath receiued a certificate of the absolution of the same party. And whether haue you permitted any excommunicate person, eyther of your owne Parish, or of any other Parish to heare Divine Service in your Parish Church, since the time you tooke vpon you the Office of Church wardens within your said Parish : If yea, set downe the names of the same parties :

37 Whether hath your Minister absolved any excommunicate person or persons of your Parish, or of any other Parish within the Archdeaconry of Essex, without a speciall warrant in writing, vnder the hands of the Judge and Register of this Court, or one of them : If yea, what are the names of such person or persons which he hath so absolved :



Articles concerning the Church.

I

**V**Whether haue you in your feuerall Churches and Chappels, the last Booke of Constitutions or Canons Ecclesiasticall, for the Minister to reade once in every yeare ?

2 Whether is there in your Church or Chappell, one parchment Register Booke, provided for Chyisteninges, Marriages, and Burials: and whether is the same duely and exactly kept, according to the Constitutions in that case provided: and whether are the Fathers and mothers Chyistian names Registered therein ?

3 Whether haue you the great Bible and Booke of Common prayer, commanded by the late Kings Majesties authoritie onely to be used, and the booke of Homilies: and whether haue you in your Church or Chappell, a Font of stone set vp in the ancient vsuall place: a conuenient and decent Communion Table set vp vnder the East wall and covered with a Carpet of silke or some other decent stuffe, and a faire Linnen cloth to lay thereon at the Communion tyme: and whether is there a decent Kalle set befoze it, at which the people may kneele at the receyving of the holy Sacrament, at Marriages, Churchings, &c. Whether are the tenne Commandements set vpon the East end of your Church or Chappell, where the people may best see and reade them, and other sentences of holy Scripture, written on the walls likewise for the same purpose ?

4 Whether haue you a conuenient Seat for the Minister to reade Service in, together with a comely Pulpit set vp in a conuenient place, with a decent cloth or Cushion for the same: a comely large Surplesse, a faire Communion Cup of Silver, and a cover agreeable for the same, with all other things and Ornamentes necessary for the Celebration of, Diuine Service, and administration of the Sacraments, and a strong Chest for the Almes of the poore, with three lockes and keyes, and another Chest for keeping of the Ornamentes of the Church and Register Booke ?

5 How many Bells are there at this present hanging in the Belfrey of your Parish Church, and how many haue there bene heretofore ? Whether any of your said Bells haue bene taken downe and sold, or made away: and what other Church goods are now wanting in your Church ?

6 Whether are your Church or Chappels with the Chancels there-  
of

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of, and your personage o2 Vicarage house, and all other housing thereto belonging, in good reparations, and decently and comely kept, as well within as without : the seates well maintained, your Church-yard well fenced and kept without abuse, according to the 85. Canon : If not, then through whose default, and what the defects are ?

7 Whether doe any with hold the stocke of the Church, o2 any goods o2 other things given to god and charitable uses ? All which are to be presented, according to the Canons, vnder the title of things appertaining to Churches :

#### Articles concerning Schoole-masters.

I

**V**Whether is the Schoole-master o2 Schoolmasters within your Parish openly o2 privately, in any Noble o2 Gentlemans house, o2 in any other place, of good and sincere Religion, life, and conversation, and diligent in the teaching and bringing vp of youth : and whether haue they bene examined, allowed, and licensed for Schoole-masters by the Ordinary in that behalfe, and how many severall Schoolemasters haue you, and what be their names ?

2 Whether doth your Schoolemaster o2 Schoole-masters themselves receiue the holy Communion as often as they ought to doe, and whether doe all their schollers that be of age sufficient, and of capacity, to receiue the Lords Supper, come to the communion either in your Church o2 where their parents dwell, once every yere, and be diligent to heare the common Prayer.

3 Whether doth the Schoole-master o2 Schoolemasters either private o2 publike, teach their Schollers the Catechisme, authorized by publike authority, at least once every weeke, o2 doe they teach any other Catechisme, and what Catechisme it is that they so teach ?

4 Whether is your Schoole-master o2 Schoole-masters, o2 any of them knowne o2 suspected to reade vnto their Schollers privately, any unlawfull Bookes, o2 privately to instruct them in their young yeres either in Roman principles of superstition, disobedience, o2 contempt of his Majesty, and his Lawes Ecclesiastical by publike authority allowed ?

5 What Recusant Papists are there in your Parish ? and whether doe they o2 any of them keepe any Schoole-master in their house which cometh not to Church to heare Divine Service, and receiue the communion : what is his name, and how long hath he taught ?

6 Whether



**6** Whether the Schoole-master or Schoole-masters within your parish, doe teach his or their Schollers any other Grammer, then that which is called the Kings Grammer, set forth by the authoritie of King Henry the 8. teaching the prescript forme thereof, whereby their Schollers may perfectly vnderstand their Grammer Rules and Constructions?

Articles concerning the Parishioners, and other of the Laity.

I

**V**Whether is there any within your Parish, that hath or doth impugne the Kings Majesties Supremacy and Authoritie in causes Ecclesiasticall, or doth any way, or in any part impeach the same, being restored to the Crowne by the Lawes of the Realme established in that behalfe?

**2** Whether is there any in your parish, that denyeth the Church of England by law established vnder the Kings most excellent Majesty, to be a true and Apostolicall Church?

**3** Whether is there any in your parish, that doe impugne any of the Articles of Religion, agreed vpon in Anno 1562. and established in the Church of England?

**4** Whether is there any in your parish, that doe impugne and speake against the Rites and Ceremonies established in the Church of England, or the lawfull vse of them?

**5** Whether is there any in your parish, that doe impugne the gouernment of the Church of England vnder the Kings most excellent Majesty by Arch-bishops, Bishops, Arch-deacons, Deanes, and the rest that beare Office in the same?

**6** Whether is there any in your parish, that impugne the forme of consecration and ordaining of Arch-bishops, Bishops, Priests, or Deacons, affirming, that the same is repugnant to the word of God: or that they, who are so ordered in the same forme, are not lawfully ordained?

**7** Whether is there any in your parish, that doth hold or frequent any Conventicles, or priuate meetings, and there doe conferre or agree vpon any priuate Orders, others then such as are by the Canons set forth by publike authoritie, to bee by them, or any others in Church gouernment obserued?

**8** Whether haue any persons lurked or stippled in Tauerne or Ale-houses vpon Sundayer, or other Holidayer, or vled his, or their manuell craft,



craft, trade, or mystery, or any bodily labour, or kept their shops open upon the said dayes, or any of them, especially in the time of Divine Service :

9 Whether hath any person in your Parish quarelled, stricken, or used any violence unto, or with your Minister, or any other, in the Church or church-yard, or used himselfe disorderly in the Church, by filthy and prophane talke, or any other rude and immodest behaviour :

10 Whether is that due reverence and humble submission used within your Church or chappell in the time of Divine Service and sermon, namely, that no man presume to cover his head, and likewise that due and lowly Reuerence be done by all persons present when the Lord Iesus is mentioned. And whether doth every one in the Church or Chappell, reverently behaue himselfe there in the time of Divine Service and sermon :

11 Whether doe the Church-wardens and Quest-men, every Sunday and holiday diligently search, who absenteth themselves from Church or whether doe they suffer any to abide in the Church-porch, or church-yard in the time of common Prayer or Sermon :

12 Whether doe the Church-wardens provide against every Communion, with the aduice of the Minister, a sufficient quantity of fine white Bread, and of good and wholesome wine, for the number of the Communicants that shall receiue, and is it brought in a cleane and sweet standing pot of Silver, or other cleane mettall.

13 Whether haue any in your Parish bene Godfathers or Godmothers to their owne Childzen ; or whether haue the Ministers, or any Godfathers or Godmothers used, any other forme, answer, or speech in Baptisme, then is in the Booke of Common Prayer appointed, or whether are any which haue not communicated, admitted to be Godfathers or Godmothers, contrary to the 29 Canon :

14 Whether is there any in your Parish, that doe refuse to haue their Childzen baptized, or themselves to receiue the Communion at the hands of the Minister, because he is no Preacher :

15 Whether doe all Fathers, Mothers, Masters and Mistresses, cause their Childzen, servants, and Apprentices, to come to the Catechisme upon the Sundayes and Holydayes, before Evening prayer, to heare, and to be instructed and taught therein :

16 Whether haue you, or your predecessours Church-wardens, suffered any Playes, Feasts, Banquets, Church-Ales, Drunkings, temporaryall



pozall Courts, 02 Leets, Lay Iuries, Musters, 02 any other pzoephane vsages to be kept in your Church, Chappell, 02 Church-yard, contrary to the 88. Canon :

17 Whether doe any of the Inhabitants within your Parish, entertaine within their house, any sojourners, lodgers, 02 any common resorters to their Guests, who refuse to frequent Divine Service, 02 refuse the holy Communion, as aforesaid, what be their names, and of what quality 02 condition are they :

18 Whether are any Romish Recusants of insolent behabour, not without publike offence, 02 doe boldly busie themselves in seducing, 02 withdrawing others, eyther abroad, 02 in their owne families, by instructing their childzen in Roman Religion, 02 by refusing to entertaine any, especially in place of greatest service 02 trust, but such as concurre with them in opinion of Religion, and what bee their names that doe so :

19 How long have the Recusants obstinately abstained eyther from Divine Service, 02 from Communion :

20 What persons aforesaid within your Parish eyther for the offence aforesaid, 02 any other contumacy 02 crime, doe remaine Excommunicated : What be their names, and for what cause and how long have they so stood Excommunicated :

21 Whether were you the Church-wardens and Auctormen chosen by the consent of the Minister and Parishioners in Easter wake, according vnto the 89. and 90. Canons : And whether haue the Church-wardens besore you given vp a iust account for their time, and delibered to you their successors, whatsoeuer money 02 other things of right belonging to the Church, which was in their hands, according to the 89 Canon :

22 Whether doe all persons aboue the age of sixteen yeres, resort to heare Divine Service vpon Sundayes and Holidayes. And whether hath each one of your Parishioners (being aboue the age of sixteen yeres, as aforesaid) receiued the Holy Communion thrice this last yere, chiefly once at Easter, in your Parish Church kneeling : If no, then you shall present their names which haue not so done.

23 Whether haue you a fit Parish clarke aged 20. yeres at the least, of honest conuersation, and sufficient for reading and writing : and whether are his and the Sextons wages paid without fraud according to the most ancient custome of your parish : If not, then by whom



is he so defrauded and denied: And whether he be chosen by the Person  
or Vicar: or by whom, according to the 91. Canon?

24 Whether doth your Clarke or Sexton keepe the Church cleane,  
the doores locked: is any thing lost or spoyled through his default. or  
doth he (when any is passing out of this life) neglect to toke the Bell,  
having notice thereof.

25 Whether haue any in your Parish ben married within the pro-  
hibited degrees forbidden by Law, and expessed in a certaine Table  
published by authority in Anno 1563. If yea, then you shall present  
their names. And whether haue you the said Table publickely set vp in  
your Church, and fastened to some convenient place.

26 Whether doth any heretofore diuorced, or married, and not di-  
uorced, keepe company as man and wife, with any other man or wo-  
man, then with the person that he or she was married vnto, and what  
be their names; If the parties now so liuing together, say that they be  
married, when and where were they married: and how long haue they  
so continued together?

27 Whether haue you in your parish, to your knowledge, or by com-  
mon fame and report, any who haue committed Adultery, Fornication,  
or Incest, or any Bawdes, Harbourers or Receiuers of such persons  
or publickely suspected thereof, which haue not bene publickely punished  
to your knowledge: If yea, then with whom? And whether are there  
any which are by common fame and report reputed, and taken to bee  
common Drunkards: Blasphemers of Gods holy Name, common and  
vsuall Swearers, filthy Speakers, Raylers, Sowers of discorde a-  
mong their Neighbours. Usurers contrary to the Statute made in the  
seauen and thirtieth yere of King Henry the eight, Symoniacall per-  
sons, Fighters, Brawlers, or quarrellers in the Church or Church-  
yard: You shall not fayle to present their names.

28 Whether haue any in your Parish receiued, or harboured any  
woman begotten with Child out of wedlocke, and suffered them againe  
to depart without penance first inflicted vpon them by their Ordinary:  
You shall truely present as well the party harbouring as harboured, and  
who is suspected to haue committed incontinency with her?

29 Whether any person or persons, suspected or detected heretofore  
of incontinencie, or any theretofore departing out of your Parish for a  
season, is now returned againe: or in what place else is he or she now  
abiding to your knowledge, or as you haue heard: you shall not faile to  
present the truth in that behalfe?



30 Whether there bee any person or persons Ecclesiasticall or Temporall within your parish, or else where within the Diocesse, that have retained and kept in their custody, or that read, sell, utter, disperse, carry or deliver to others, any English or Latine Bookes, or Libels, set forth or Printed, eyther on this side or beyond the Seas, by the Roman party or other Sectaries against the Kings Supremacy in causes Ecclesiasticall, or tending to Roman or Puritan recusancie, or any other Refractory Sect, error, or Heresie, against true Religion, and Catholicke doctrine, now publikely professed in this Church, or the government, or discipline of the Church of England, now within this Realme received and established by common authority, that you know, or have heard of, what their names or surnames are?

31 Whether any of your Parishioners, having a Preacher to their Rector, Vicar, or Curate, doe absent themselves from his Sermons, and resort to another place to heare other Preachers?

32 Whether there be any Inne-keepers, Ale houses, Victuallers, or Tiplers, that suffer, or doe admit any person or persons into their houses, to eate, drinke, or play at Dice, Cards, Tables, Bowles, or such like Games, in the time of Common Prayer or Sermon, on Sundayes, or Holydayes: or any Butchers or other, that commonly vse to sell meate or other things in the time of common Prayer, preaching, or reading of Homilies: and whether in any Faires or common Markets there be shewing of any wares before Solemne Prayer be done: And whether any markets or selling of wares bee vsed or suffered in any Church-yards by common Pack-men and Pedlers going about, or any Butchers?

33 Whether the Minister or Church-wardens, or any of the Parish, without the consent or privity of the Ordinary, haue caused any to doe Penance, or to be punished eyther openly, or otherwise, by any Vestry meeting, or have taken money for any crime punishable by the Ecclesiasticall Lawes onely, and what be the names of the parties that have bene so punished, and in what manner?

34 Whether there be any in your Parish, who will come to heare the Sermon, but will not come to the publike Prayer, making a schisme or division betwene the vse of publike prayer and preaching? And whether there be any, who being present at publike Prayer, doe not devoutly and humbly kneele vpon their knees, at such times as by the Booke of Common Prayer they are appointed: To wit, when they  
make



make a Generall confession of their finnes : when all Prayers and Collects are read, in the time of the Letany ; when the Tenne Commandments are read ; and at the receiuing of the holy Communion, &c. And what be their Names that haue at any time shewed themselves vndutifull and vnrerent in that behalfe ?

35 Whether there bee any married women within your Parish, which after Child-birth, refuse, contemne, or neglect to come to the Church, to giue God thanks for their safe delivery, and to haue the Prayers publikely appointed in that behalfe by the Booke of Common prayer ? And whether are they beyled with a faire white dresse of Linnen cloath, and accompanied with some of the honest Wives of the Parish, according to the ancient custome of our Church of England ?

36 Whether any within your Parish, doe resort into Barnes, Fields, Woods, private houses, &c. To heare expositions of Scriptures, or to haue conferences together, or that be drawers or perswaders of others to any such schismaticall Conuenticle ?

37 Whether any doe keepe their Children unbaptized longer then is convenient, vntill that it be for some vrgent occasion ? And whether any doe carry their Child or Children, from the Parish they are bozne in, to other Parishes to be Baptized, and so refuse their owne Parish, and to what other Parish ? Or doe bring strange Priests into their owne houses to Baptize their children privately, according to their owne fantasies ?

38 Whether doe you know or haue heard of any within your Parish, that haue presumed to intermeddle with the goods and chattels of any dead person, not hauing authoritie from the Ordinary, eyther by prouing the will of the deceased, or by procuring of Letters of Administration ?

39 Item, ( setting do wne the full summe of the Communicants within your Parish ) you shall present every one who hath bene defective at this Feast of Easter last past, in receiuing the holy Communion, vpon neglect, contempt, or any other pretence and excuse.

40 Whether doe you know of any other matter of Ecclesiasticall cognizance worthy the presentment, in your judgement, heretofore in these Articles not exprested, which is fit to be reformed in Ecclesiasticall censure ? If you doe, you shall likewise present the same by vertue of your Oathes ?

41 Whether



41 Whether doe your Parishioners obserue and keepe holy the Holy and Festivall dayes, which by the Lawes and Statutes of this Land are commanded to be kept holy : and are set downe in the Booke of common Prayer after the Kalender ?

42 Whether the fifth day of November be kept holy, and thanksgiving be made to God for the States happy deliberance, according to the Ordinance in that behalfe ?

43 Lastly, you the Church-wardens are at the charge of your parish, to provide a convenient large Sheet, and a white wand to bee had, and kept within your Church or Vestry, to be used at such times as Offenders are censured for their grievous and notorious crimes.

Immediately after Michaelmas next, there shall be a Synode holden, where, and when the Clergy and Church-wardens are upon warning given to appeare : at which time, the Church-wardens are to exhibite a Bill of Presentment to the Articles aforesaid, and then they shall exhibite no Bill of Presentment to the aforesaid Articles, untill the next Visitation following : but if there shall be just cause to present any persons, the Church-wardens may at any time make Presentments, and bring the same into the Registry. And at the delivery of your Presentment, you shall set downe in the latter end thereof, the Names of such as have bene buried within your Parish, for the space of a quarter of a yeere last past, before the date of your said Bill, being Men, Waiues, or Widowes.

Articles to be enquired of by the Minister, Church-wardens and Side-men of every Parish, within the Arch-deaconry of Essex, according to the speciall direction of certaine Letters heretofore sent to the Lord Bishop of London, from the right Honourable the Lords of the Privie Councell.

**I**N primis, Whether there be any in your parish, either Parishioners, Sojourners, or such as bee late come out of their Countries into your parish, which doe refuse to come to Divine Service to their Parish-Church, or else where : and what be their names, and surnames, and how long they have refused so to doe ?

2 Item, How many of their wiues and childzen above the age of sixteen yeeres, servants, and other sojourners abiding in their houses, doe likewise refuse so to doe : and what be their Names, and surnames, and how long have they refused so to doe ?



## Articles concerning the Clergie.

3 Item, Whether there be any in your Parish which bee suspected to haue bene reconciled to the Roman Religion, or to haue bene absolved or any that procured or counselled thereunto : and what be their names, and surnames :

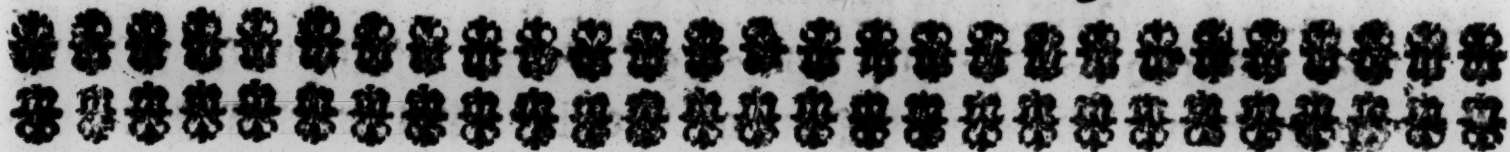
4 Item, Whether there be any in your Parish which be suspected to be Massing Priests, Reconcilers, Jesuites, Seminaries, or other persons which have received any Orders or authority from the Romish Church, to vse the like : and what be their names, and surnames :

5 Item, Whether there be any Schoole-masters within your parish, which doe not bring up their youth in the Religion now professed, or be not themselves diligent in repairing to Divine Service, or bringing their Schollers to it :

## Articles concerning Parishioners.

**I**n every Parish where any manner of person dwelleth or sojourneth which refuseth to goe to some Church to heare Divine Service, the Minister and Church-wardens of that Parish are commanded every Moneth from henceforth to goe to every such person with two or three honest witnesses, and before those witnesses to require every such person to repaire to the Church to heare Divine Service: and the said Minister and Church-wardens are commanded to send a Certificate in writing signed with the hands, marks, and Seales of the said Minister, Church-wardens, and Witnesses, to their Arch-deacon, alwayes on the tenth day before Midsummer day: and on the tenth day before Christmas day : So, as returne of such certificate be made in time to the Custos Rotulorum, at every Assizes next ensuing those Feasts, testifying as well the manner and time of their admonishments of such Recusants whatsoever they be, as their answers : And when and whether they went to Church every Moneth, after such admonition given to them, as aforesaid : Or whether any such person hath wilfully withdrawn from taking or vnderstanding such admonition : and also declaring the names, surnames, and abiding places of every one that shall offend in any part or clause of the aboue written Articles: This every Minister and Church-warden, is straightly charged to shew his diligence in, and effectually to do, as they and every of them shall and will answer to the contrary, at their perils.





*To the five Articles aforesaid touching  
the Recusants.*

**Y**ou shall bring your Presentment into the Registry of the Arch-deacon of *Essex*, tenne dayes before Midsummer day, and tenne dayes before Christmas day, specifying the proper and surname, title, and addition of every person presented, and how many Moneths they have refused to come to Divine Service, to their Parish Church, or else-where, before the day of making your Presentment.

Instructions for the Ministers, and Church-wardens, of the severall Parishes within the Arch-deaconry of *Essex*.

1 **T**hat his Majesties Declaration published Anno Dom. 1628. before the Articles of Religion, for settling all questions in difference, be strictly observed.

2 That speciall care be had concerning Lecturers in every Parish for whom these directions ensuing are to be followed.

1 First, that in all Parishes, the afternoones Sermons be turned into Catechizing by Question and answer, where, and whensoever there is no great cause apparent, to breake this ancient and profitable Order.

2 That every Lecturer doe reade Divine Service according to the Liturgie, Printed by authority, in his Surplisse, and Hood, before the Lecture.

3 That where any Lecture is set up in a Market Towne, the same be read by a company of Graue, and Orthodox Divines, neere adjoyning in the same Diocesse, and that they preach in Gowns, and not in Cloakes.



4 That if a Corporation doe maintaine a single Lecturer, hee be not suffered to Preach, till he profess his willingnesse to take vpon him a living with Cure of Soules, within that Incorporation, and that he doe actually take such Benefice, or Cure, so soone as it shall be fairely procured for him.

5 That the Minister and Church-wardens in every Parish, or one of them doe by writing, vnder his or their owne hands, certifie vnto the Arch-deacon of Essex, or his Officiall, ( at every Visitation and Synode ) the Christian and surnames of every Lecturer in their Parishes, and the place where he Preacheth, (whether exempt or not exempt) together with his quality and degree.

4 That they doe in like manner, certifie the names of all such men as being not qualified by Law, doe keepe Chaplaines in their houses.

5 That they doe further certifie the Names of all such, as absent themselves from, or are negligent in comming to Divine Service, as well Prayers, as Catechizings and Sermons.

6 That the Ministers and Churchwardens of every Parish successively, doe keepe a severall Copy of these Instructions by them, whereby they may be the better informed of their duty and that at every Visitation and Synode, they shall present all such persons as have disobeyed these Instructions, that according to his Majesties pleasure, such as doe conformance, may be encouraged, and such as are refractories, may be punished.

EDVVARD LAYFIELD, Arch-deacon of Essex.

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